[25th January 1928

Mr. S. Muttayya Mudaliyar :—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"If I receive a copy of the order referred to, I shall be glad to consider the matter."

Yeomiahs

Appointment of the Khateeb to the Wallajah Mosque in Georgetown.

*1421 Q.—Syed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) who was the Khateeb leading congregational prayers in the Wallajah Mosque otherwise known as the Kusjid-e-Mamoor, in Angappa Nayak street, Georgetown, Madras, up to the end of the year 1922, when this incumbent died, and of what;

(b) whether after the demise of the late Khateeb, Khazi Hafiz Abdul Aziz Sahib, his nephew one Muhammad Yusuf Sahib was officiating as Khateeb for a period of over six months;

(c) whether it is a fact that he applied to Government for being confirmed in the appointment of Khateeb to which he had already been nominated by the Muslim congregation and whether he was recommended by the then head of the department;

(d) whether the Government appointed another person to the office and sanctioned the registry of the yeomiah allowance in his name instead of confirming the then officiating Khateeb in the office;

(e) what are the special qualifications of the present incumbent to the said office and what reasons led the Government to appoint a stranger in the place overlooking the hereditary rights of the officiating Khateeb;

(f) whether it is a fact that the person appointed by the Government had even before the appointment openly confessed before the congregation his physical and mental incapacity to discharge the duties of the Khateeb when called upon by them to assume that office;

(g) whether it is a fact that ever since the date of his public condemnation by the Muslim congregation the Khateeb appointed by the Government never ascended the pulpit and never led a single congregational prayer;

(h) whether it is a fact that one Hanza of Mecca and others used to discharge his duties in his absence;

(i) who is at present drawing the yeomiah allowance and in whose name it is continued;

(j) what is the nature, extent and value of the yeomiah allowance, and what conditions, if any, are attached to its grant;

(k) whether it is a fact that the High Court of Judicature has decreed in O.S. No. 286 of 1912 that the present incumbent had no right or claim to the place of Khazi or Khateeb and that he was not fit for the same; and

(l) whether the Government will consider the desirability of appointing the said Muhammad Yusuf, the nephew of the late Khateeb?

A.—(a) Hafiz Abdul Azeez Sahib. He died on 6th December 1922. The Government do not know the cause of his death.

(b) Yes.

(c) He applied to the Government and was recommended by the Accountant-General under whom he was employed as an Auditor. The Government do not know whether he was nominated by the Muslim congregation.